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COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
Environmental Resources
February 12, 1986
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SUBJECT: Industrial Wastes
NVF Company
Kennett Square Borough, Chester County

TO: JOSEPH A. FEOLA
Regional Water Quality Manager

FROM: WALTER E. STANLEY, JR.
Chief, Operations Section

The following is a summary of the Polychlorinated Biphenol (PCB) investigation at the NVF Company.

In late 1982 the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service collected samples of fish in the Red Clay Creek and had them analyzed for PCB's. Sample results revealed elevated concentrations of PCB's in the fish flesh.

In January 1983, we collected stream samples of the Red Clay Creek in an effort to locate the source of the PCB's. Our samples finally led us to the NVF Company as a source of the PCB problem in the Red Clay Creek.

On May 9, 1983, we inspected the NVF Company and the sample results indicated the presence of PCB's in the non-contact cooling water discharge at outfall 001, and in the sediment of the receiving stream below outfall 001. We notified the company of the violation of the Clean Streams Law, and advised them to take corrective action.

The NVF Company retained E.H. Richardson Associates, Inc. to determine the source of the PCB's emanating from discharge No. 001. It was determined that the PCB's were coming from No. 7 press pit. In years past this specific press was heated with eutectic heating oil (airchlor or powtherm) containing PCB"s. In the late 1960's this press was converted to a steam heated press that the accumulated sluges, residual oils and debris has remained in the pit since that time.

On March 13, 1984, we met with the company to inspect the plant facilities and to discuss vartious aspects of a more comprehensive clean-up at the site. This was confirmed by a letter from us dated April 4, 1984. On April 11, 1984 we received a letter from the NVF Company indicating they had initiated discussions with several consultant firms to undertake clean-up activities at the site. The discharge to the cooling water system had been abated by connecting the press sump pump to the sanitary sewer system.

By January 1, 1985, all sludges, debris, etc. were removed from the pit and washed down several times with kerosene. The PCB concentration had been reduced